MONTREAL DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The District Show of Fat Hogs took place at the New Market in this city, on the 2d day of February last.

There were only four competitors.

The judges being duly appointed and sworn, the first premium in class 37, was adjudged to Mr. Thos. Hastings, Petite Cote, for the four heaviest and best fatted Hogs.

Mr. A Kempton, St. Therese, next best do.

Third premium withheld, the hogs exhibited not being considered of sufficient size or weight.

Mr. Hastings and Mr. Kempton having a large breed of swine, were informed by members of the society who were present, that some young animals of the breed would be very acceptable to be distributed to farmers in the District, for the improvement of the breed of swine. Mr. Kempton very liberally offered two young boars in the spring, to be given out as proposed.

The Society will be prepared to give out a few young Boars of imported breed to Canadian Farmers, applying to the Secretary, at his residence, Cote St. Paul, after the 1st of May next.

The District Show of Fat Animals took place at the Hay Market in this city, on the 8th instant, pursuant to public advertisement.

The judges being duly appointed and sworn, made the following adjudications, viz:—

Free for all Competitors.

Class 38—For the heaviest and best fatted Ox, fatted in the district; first premium to

Mr. E. Knowlton, Stukely; the ox weighed 2112 lbs.

Mr. L. Knowlton, do. second premium; this ox weighed 1920 lbs.

For the third premium, no competitor.

Class 39—For the heaviest and best fatted Cow or Heifer, fatted in the District.

Mr. E. Knowlton, Stukely, first prize.

For the second or third premium, no competitors.

Free for Canadian Practical Farmers.

Class 40—Only for fat Oxen of Canadian or improved Canadian breed.

Mr. J. Lebert, Sources, first premium.

Mr. P. Demarche, Terrebonne, second do.

The third animal exhibited in this class, was not considered of sufficient merit, to be entitled to a prize.

Free for all Competitors.

Class 41—For the four heaviest and best fatted Sheep, fatted in the district.

Mr. Molson, Montreal, first prize.

Mr. Bourbonnier, Long Point, next best do.

Mr. F. Greece, St. Therese, third best do.

Mr. Molson's sheep, though not two years old, were very fine, and extremely well fatted.

Mr. Bourbonnier's sheep were full aged, very good, and well fatted.

Mr. Molson and Mr. Penner are at present possessed of a stock of sheep, well calculated to produce great improvement in that particular description of animals throughout the district.

The premiums at each show were paid as awarded in presence of the Committee.

By order,

WM. EVANS, Secretary, &c.

Montreal, March 9, 1832.

On Friday the 9th instant, experiments were made by the Agricultural Society in a field near the Wind Mills, St. Ann Suburbs, to ascertain the best mode of fixing Shafts to Winter Carriages, in order to prevent the formation of Cahots.

The state of the snow was extremely unfavourable, and proved not to be of sufficient depth to make a fair experiment in the field that was chosen. There were six Winter Carriages, viz:—

Three common Trains, with shafts attached in the usual manner on the inside of the runners; two common Trains with the shafts fixed on the outside the runners; and one Dung Sleigh with high runners, each drawn by one horse. Roads were marked out for each of about 100 yards in length, and the carriages being loaded with stone or brick, continued to draw on the several roads, from three to four hours. The result was—

The common Trains with shafts fixed on the outside the runners, and the Sleigh with high runners, did not form a cahot. Two of the common Trains with shafts attached in the usual manner on the inside the runners by a chain, formed several cahots; the third Train of the same description, did not form a cahot, but the particular part of the field where the last train worked, proved not to have a sufficient depth of snow to form cahots.

The members of the Society who were witness to the experiment, are fully convinced that the common train with shafts fixed in the usual manner on the inside the runners, are the main cause of cahots and bad winter roads in Lower Canada; and although they believe the common train to be a defective machine, the runners being too low and too short, yet were the shafts fixed on the outside of the runners, it would be a great means of preventing the formation of cahots, and lead to the introduction of a more suitable and better description of winter carriage. Winter being the time of transporting the greater part of the agricultural produce of this Province to market, the bad state of the winter roads acts as a very considerable drawback on agriculture. To apply a remedy to the evil, if a remedy is practicable, the society conceive would have a most beneficial effect on the interests of agriculture, of commerce, and the Province at large; and the society beg leave most respectfully to recommend to the consideration of the members of the Legislature, the best and most effectual mode of remedy before the next Session of the Provincial Parliament.

By order,

WM. EVANS, Secretary, &c.

Montreal, 10th March, 1832.

Having seen some remarks in the Vindicator of Friday last, respecting the mode of appointing judges at the last show of fat animals, I think it my duty to state facts as they occurred. The judges must by the rules of the society be chosen with the concurrence of at least seven members of the Committee, and must not be directly, or indirectly interested in the adjudications they make. They are invariably sworn before a magistrate to act justly, to the best of their judgement, and in conformity to the rules of the Society.

At the last show all these regulations were strictly complied with. Three judges were appointed, Mr. Bogg, Mr. Lebert and Mr Collan, for cattle other than Canadian, and for sheep. Mr. Lebert, being a competitor in the class for Canadians only, did not act in determining the premiums in that class; a fourth judge Mr. Masterman, was named in his stead, and duly sworn. The committee are in the habit of appointing butchers as judges of fat Animals. When judges are sworn to act justly, and are not known to be connected with the candidates, what greater precaution can be reasonably taken? The person who appears to have made the complaint, did not express the slighest dissatisfaction when I paid him the premium adjudged to him. If he conceived the decision of the judges to have been incorrect, he should have communicated his dissatisfaction to the committee on the spot, and if they refused to enquire into the matter, he might have some grounds for complaint.

At the show, Mr. F. Greece, of St. Therese, mentioned to me before the judges made their adjudications, that he understood a butcher was exhibiting an ox, in the class for Canadians only, which he had purchased a day or two before. I immediately made enquiry of Mr. Lebert, the person alluded to by Mr. Greece, who assured me he had bought the ox in question in July last, and had fed him on his farm since that period, and was prepared to prove the fact before the committee. I communicated this circumstance to members of the committee present, who thought it unnecessary to require any further proof.

Such is a plain statement of facts.

WM. EVANS, Secretary, &c.